

REMARKS

Claims 39-62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shinomura (U.S. 5,935,228) in view of Colligen et al. (U.S. 6,519,762) and Suda (U.S. 2004/0123059).

Claim 56 has been canceled.

Independent claims 39, 45, 51, and 57 have been amended to recite that a switch is utilized to determine not only which of three different partitions on a memory card is utilized but also to determine the file system to use to access the corresponding partition. The prior art fails to teach or suggest this. Specifically, Suda teaches a physical switch being used to select between volumes, but all the volumes are of the same file system. Indeed, none of the prior art references teach or suggest having multiple partitions stored using multiple file systems on a single memory card.

Furthermore, dependent claims 44, 50, 55, and 62 recite that the file system for each corresponding partition is determined based upon a portion of the address space uniquely associated with the partition. None of the prior art teaches or suggests this element either.

Support for these amendments can be found in the Specification, paragraphs [0050] – [0052].

Dependent claims 40-44, 46-50, 52-55, and 58-62 are also patentably distinct from the cited references for at least the same reasons as those recited above for the independent claim, upon which they ultimately depend. These dependent claims recite additional limitations that further distinguish these dependent claims from the cited references. For at least these reasons, claims 40-44, 46-50, 52-55, and 58-62 are not anticipated or made obvious by the prior art outlined in the Office Action.

Applicant believes that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,
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